

## United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.          | FILING DATE     | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/677,800               | 10/03/2003      | Oscar D. Windham     | 21530.00            | 9657             |
| 37833                    | 7590 05/12/2005 |                      | EXAM                | INER             |
| LITMAN LA<br>PO BOX 1503 | W OFFICES, LTD  |                      | KIM, TA             | AE JUN           |
| CRYSTAL CI               | =               |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
| ARLINGTON                | , VA 22215      |                      | 3746                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 05/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|  |  | $\omega$   |          |
|--|--|--|----------|
|  | Application No.  | Applicant(s)   |          |
|  | 10/677,800   | WINDHAM, OSCAR D.  |          |
| Office Action Summary  | Examiner   | Art Unit   |          |
|  | Ted Kim  | 3746   |          |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication a Period for Reply  | appears on the cover sheet v   | vith the correspondence address  |          |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a r  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory peri  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by stat Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the ma earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). | N. 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply within the statutory minimum of the fod will apply and will expire SIX (6) MC tute, cause the application to become A | a reply be timely filed  irty (30) days will be considered timely.  DNTHS from the mailing date of this communic  ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). | eation.  |
| Status   |  |  |          |
| 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on   |  | ·  |          |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  | his action is non-final.   |  |          |
| 3) Since this application is in condition for allow  | wance except for formal ma   | tters, prosecution as to the merit   | ts is    |
| closed in accordance with the practice unde  | er Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.  | D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.   |          |
| Disposition of Claims  |  |  |          |
| 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the applicatio   | n.   |  |          |
| 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withd   | Irawn from consideration.  |  |          |
| 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.  |  |  |          |
| 6) Claim(s) is/are rejected.   |  |  |          |
| 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.  |  |  |          |
| 8) Claim(s) <u>1-8</u> are subject to restriction and/or   | r election requirement.  |  |          |
| Application Papers   |  |  |          |
| 9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Exam   | iner.  |  |          |
| 10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ a   | accepted or b) objected to   | by the Examiner.   |          |
| Applicant may not request that any objection to t  | he drawing(s) be held in abey  | ance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  |          |
| Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the corr  | ection is required if the drawin   | g(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.13   | 21(d).   |
| 11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the   | Examiner. Note the attach  | ed Office Action or form PTO-15  | 2.       |
| Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119   |  |  |          |
| 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority docume 2. Certified copies of the priority docume 3. Copies of the certified copies of the papplication from the International Burn * See the attached detailed Office action for a I  | ents have been received. ents have been received in priority documents have been reau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  | Application No en received in this National Stage  | <b>;</b> |
| Attachment(s)  | _  |  |          |
| 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  |  | v Summary (PTO-413)<br>o(s)/Mail Date  |          |
| <ul> <li>2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/</li> </ul>   |  | f Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  |          |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date  | 6) Other: _  |  |          |

Art Unit: 3746

## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species I:

Figure 1A, 1B

Species II:

Figure 2

Species III:

Figure 3

Species IV:

Figure 4

Species V:

Figure 5

Species VI: Figure 6, 7

Species VII: Figure 8

Sub-Species A:

Figure 1C, 1D

Sub- Species B:

Figure 1E

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species and a single consistent sub-species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claim 1 is generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is

Application/Control Number: 10/677,800 Page 3

Art Unit: 3746

allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

2. A telephone call was made to Richard Litman on 5/2/05 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

## **Contact Information**

Application/Control Number: 10/677,800

Art Unit: 3746

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Ted Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-4829. The Examiner can be reached on regular business hours before 5:00 pm, Monday to Thursday and every other Friday.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application is assigned are 703-872-9306 for Regular faxes and 703-872-9306 for After Final faxes.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl Tyler, can be reached on 571-272-4834.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist of Technology Center 3700, whose telephone number is 703-308-0861. General inquiries can also be directed to the Patents Assistance Center whose telephone number is 800-786-9199. Furthermore, a variety of online resources are available at <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/main/patents.htm">http://www.uspto.gov/main/patents.htm</a>

| -(h)                                |                   |              |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Ted Kim                             | Telephone         | 571-272-4829 |
| Primary Examiner                    | Fax (Regular)     | 703-872-9306 |
| May 3, 2005                         | Fax (After Final) | 703-872-9306 |
| Technology Center 3700 Receptionist | Telephone         | 703-308-0861 |
| Patents Assistance Center           | Telephone         | 800-786-9199 |